

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION WEEKLY UPDATE FOR THE WEEK OF January 5, 2009

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Cluster

If you were unable to participate in the NQPS trainings last fall, please contact me about which dates and location in April will work for you. I sent you a METNET e-mail with dates and other information in early January. Please let me know as soon as possible.

The Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Pathways Advisory Committee will meet in Helena at 7:00 p.m. on January 22nd. The model pathways that have been developed will be distributed to the committee and discussed.

The winter meeting of the ag teachers will be in Helena at Jorgensen's on January 23rd. A legislative breakfast will be held early that day followed by the meeting.

See you all at the Winter Meeting!

Dr. Brad King

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Business, Management and Information Systems Cluster

Cheryl Graham was contracted November 1, 2008 to continue the work of this committee. On December 2, 2008 the committee met via conference call to determine the three model pathways to be developed. The pathways determined by committee at that time were chosen from three different clusters. The clusters and pathways are as follows:

1. **Marketing, Sales, and Services (cluster)**
Professional Sales and Marketing (pathway)
2. **Information Technology (cluster)**
Information and Support Services (pathway)
3. **Business, Management and Administration (cluster)**
Business Financial Management and Accounting (pathway)

On December 29, 2008, the pathways work subcommittee met in Kalispell. The objective was to come up with the three model pathway drafts for the pathways selected by the committee at large during the December 2 conference call. The committee members present in Kalispell were Lyle Courtnage, Linda Corr-Mahugh, Brenda Rudolph, Sue Cheff, Curly Burns and Cheryl Graham. George Burns attended for input and discussion regarding the June professional development & training. Bill Roope also attended the morning session as Western Montana Tech Prep director. The model pathways were developed in draft. The meeting and subsequent resulting model pathways are out with the committee at large for input and comments. Pathways are targeted to be marked final by this committee on February 22 in Helena.

Cheryl Graham

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Health Sciences Career Cluster

Health Sciences Technology Education Update

The Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) is gearing up for their State Leadership Conference in Missoula, March 19-21st. In addition to competing in 57 knowledge, skills, leadership and teamwork events, the students attend a series of educational symposiums to further broaden their career options in the health professions. This competition is open to all secondary and post-secondary students. Contact Renee for more information (contact information below)

OPI-HSTE, in partnership with MT Area Health Education Centers across the state, will be publishing a newsletter each month highlighting health sciences lessons for K through 12th grade students. We are currently working on a distribution list of interested teachers. If you would like to receive these lessons, please contact Renee.

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Family and Consumer Sciences Education Human Services & Resources Career Cluster

The December meeting for the Human Services & Resources Cluster was cancelled due to winter weather conditions. The meeting has been rescheduled for January 27th in Helena. The group will work on developing the initial model pathways for Human Services & Resources. These model pathways will be available for use by February 15th.

The Montana FCCLA Advisory Board and State Executive Council are holding meetings in Helena on January 11 and 12, 2009 to work on plans for the upcoming State Leadership Conference. This conference will be held March 19-21, 2009 in Billings.

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Industrial, Manufacturing & Engineering Systems Cluster

A Big Sky Pathways Committee meeting was held on December 9, 2008.

PATHWAY MODEL

The Pathway Model was reviewed and feedback was given. Bill Roope advised adding CNC Machining and Production - Certificate to the Production Model.

Discussion was entertained on which Pathways to develop further. The top 5 Pathways chosen included: **Manufacturing and Production, Transportation, Architecture and Construction, Engineering and Technology, and Operations**. These pathways would continue to be defined and changed within the specified cluster.

ARTICULATION

Linda provided an outline of common course requirements from nine different Montana colleges offering AAS in Carpentry/Construction. A general consensus of those present was that a standard, not general, curriculum needed to be established to avoid duplication of courses within the pathways model. The standardized curriculum would help ensure a smooth transition from high school to postsecondary training. Standardized curriculum would have an agenda outlined for that specific course of what skills the student can expect to be taught from that course and goals to be attained before entering into the college level course.

TEMPLATE EXAMPLE

Linda presented a template example that could be used by students, parents, and counselors for the Montana Big Sky Pathways for Careers in Construction website. It provided an overview of high school credits needed to complete the plan of study while preparing for entrance into a Montana college, university, or apprenticeship. The template was agreed upon by all with a few changes that included: Add Military to the list of postsecondary options; Add skills activities under the Electives heading; and Include a link in the admission requirements box to direct the student to check for specific admission requirements at each college or university as they may differ.

SUMMER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Discussion was then turned to choosing two occupations from the pathways to focus on and develop curriculum for at the Summer Professional Development conference in March. The deadline for choosing the occupations is January. Welding was a suggestion as they did not get to complete the course at the last conference, as well as welding.

The next committee meeting was scheduled for January 20, 2009. Topics at that meeting will be Courses to Articulate, Professional Development, and Completion of Model Pathways Template.

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